

## **The Economic Times**

### **Joblessness turns MBAs, techies into Gujarat village officers**

GANDHINAGAR: The state government claims Gujarat has low employment but facts paint a grim picture of joblessness in the state. Highly qualified people are accepting jobs for which Class 12 pass is the minimum qualification.

A large number of post-graduates, engineers, MBAs, ayurveda and homeopathy doctors, and law graduates figure at the top in the list of 2,343 candidates selected for class III post of talatis (village officers). The minimum education qualification needed for applying for this job was only Class 12 pass!

Official records indicate that out of 2,343 candidates selected for appointment as Talati, 950 are engineers, 12 are ayurveda and homeopathy doctors and around 200 hold MBA, MCA and B.Pharm degrees. There is hardly any candidate who is not a graduate.

The toppers had worked hard as students. But in a strange irony, while distributing appointment letters to 15 from the list of successful candidates on Friday, chief minister Vijay Rupani advised them to 'work hard' for the welfare of people.

It is noteworthy that for the 2,560 class three III post of Talati, the state government had received more than 10 lakh applications. Out of these, 2,343 candidates were selected for appointment.

Most of the highly-educated candidates selected for the job said they had accepted the job of Talat despite having qualifications for better employment because there are no jobs available in government or in the private sector. All of them said they are trying for better government employment and will leave the Talati jobs if they get a better alternative.